(b) The refunds were issued to the senior citizens on the spot when the returns were received in July, 2001.

(c) Refunds become due to the assessees on the date the processing under section 143(1) of the Income-tax Act, is completed. As such 317 cases of refunds were pending as on 31.10.2001. The Assessing Officers have been instructed to despatch all refund vouchers by registered post with acknowledgement due within 15 days of the date on which the refund is determined.

Excise duty on decoiling Units of Iron and Steel segment

3156. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBEC has issued a circular dragging into excise net the decoiling Units of Iron and Steel segment;

(b) if so, what are the criteria therefore and the details thereof;

(c) whether Iron and Steel processing Association has submitted representation against this Circular; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The Central Board of Excise & Customs issued Circular No. 584/21/2001-CX dated 7.9.2001 clarifying that if the proces of cutting and slitting of HR/CR coils of Iron or Steel, by the decoiling Units, results in change of heading/sub-heading as per the Central Excise Tariff, it would amount to manufacture and duty would be payable by these units.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government have issued notification no. 6/2002-CE dated 1.3.2002 (SI. No. 173 refers) exempting all units, which undertake the process of cutting and/or slitting of HR/CR Coils on job-work basis, from the whole of Central Excise duty, provided no CENVAT credit has been availed by the unit.